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TAGS: [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [PREL](#) [SP](#) [AF](#) [KG](#)
SUBJECT: SPAIN PRESSES KYRGYZSTAN ON MANAS AIRFIELD

REF: A. SECSTATE 81543
[1](#)B. MADRID 1269

Classified By: Poloff Ricardo Zuniga for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d).

(C/NF) Following up on ref B, MOD Deputy Director General for Cooperation General Munoz Castresana called PolOff on June 6 to explain the steps that Spain has taken to advance the US case on Manas airfield with the Kyrgyz government. Castresana said that his boss, MOD Policy Director Francisco Torrente, is interested in helping the US to retain use of Manas, even though it is possible that the Spanish air force plane there will be relocated to a location more convenient to Spanish forces. Castresana said that on May 31 the Spanish Deputy Perm Rep to NATO expressed to the Charge of the Kyrgyz mission in Brussels strong Spanish support for the US position and the need for a quick solution on reasonable terms. The Kyrgyz Charge said that he would transmit this information to his government. In addition, the GOS passed the same message directly to the Kyrgyz Ministry of Foreign Affairs via a diplomatic note from its ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, who is resident in Kazakhstan. Castresana emphasized that Spanish officials had carefully coordinated with USG officials in both Brussels and Bishkek.
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